

Dear IRBL Members:

All managers who have not already done so, send \$9.95 for the new 1973 season cards (or \$12.95 if you want the entire game) to Replay Games Inc., 560 Route 88, Carmichaels, Pa. 15320. I have scheduled the first series about 2 weeks later than I originally planned to allow everyone enough time to get the new cards. Next season, send your orders in in January so that we can begin at the beginning of April.

Here are 4 new managers:

NEW YORK METS

Larry Alber  
380 Florida Street  
Buffalo, New York 14208  
716-882-7673

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

Marc Silvestrini  
Box 1962  
Providence College  
Providence, R.I. 02918

after May 20th  
190 Waite Street  
Hamden, Conn. 06517  
303-288-4398

TEXAS RANGERS

Robert P. Jones  
74 County Road  
Reading, Mass. 01867  
617-944-0961

MINNESOTA TWINS

David Pittner  
3344 Genesee Street  
Cheekrowaga, New York 14225  
716-632-7835

I'll have the address of the new Angels' manager next time. I haven't heard from the Orioles, Athletics and Expos managers since their first response in January despite writing to them several times. I am forced to declare these teams open and will fill them with the response I will get to my ADs in the Mar. and Apr. Scoreboards.

TEMPORARY MANAGERS: Larry Alber will manage the Milwaukee Brewers; Steve Bombard will manage the Houston Astros. Temporary managers cannot complete trades between their permanent team and their temporary team. Aside from that, they have complete control of the team to trade with any other team.

TELEPHONE #'s: Jim Smith (Braves) 205-251-5325  
Nite Mahan (Red Sox) 303-772-5102

No one has definitely told me that he cannot play his road games with the open teams, so I will be sending out the instructions unless I hear otherwise from any manager. I will play the games between all teams without permanent or temporary managers until those teams are filled.

So far, the only NL votes to decide the DH use is a vote in favor of it by the Reds. I will accept votes until the Apr. 8 newsletter is printed. If I receive no other votes, the Reds 1 vote will decide the issue.

Let me know if you think that giving the worst 6 teams 2 first round picks is too much of an advantage and that each team should get 1 pick at a time. I will change this if most managers feel it is unfair.

ADDITIONAL BASECOACHING RULE:

32) With any runner on base, a manager may play it safe with that runner on a hit by declaring so before the roll of the dice. That runner would then advance 1 base on a single and 2 bases on a double, regardless of what the charts indicate which may also nullify a specified advancement of the batter or preceding baserunner. Such runners avoid putouts that would have resulted from trying for the extra base and do not take any extra bases that the charts state they otherwise would have reached safely. (This rule must apply to both singles and doubles and cannot be split up to apply to only 1). To be sure everyone fully understands the trading and player control rules, let me sum it up: All player cards your team starts with this season are under your control for life. Nothing that happens in the major leagues effects the rosters of our IRBL teams this year, next year or at any time. The only time our rosters change is when we make a trade. In future years, ALL cards not made this year are eligible to be drafted by all teams when their draft turn comes if that player hasn't been picked yet. Teams do NOT have any special claim or rights to new players issued on their major league team counterpart. Therefore, a manager can only trade players whose cards he presently has or have had in a previous IRBL season that do not presently have cards. He can also

trade his draft picks for any round of any year. I hope that everyone completely and totally understands this area of the league rules.

If due to trades, any team has more than 25 cards at the start of the season, all players above 25 must be declared inactive and should be reported to me. Inactive players cannot be placed on the active roster unless a trade changes your roster. Until the trading season ends and rosters of all teams are published, send along with your instructions and results a list of all your players.

**CLARIFICATION OF THE SAVE RULE:** A pitcher must face the tying or lead run or have that runner on base when he enters the game to qualify under part one of the rule.

Any manager who is unfamiliar with mail league instructions and would like copies of different types of instruction sheets I have received in other leagues, let me know and I will send it out to you. These will be for APBA Baseball, but a similar form could be used for Replay.

Let me reemphasize rule #23. Do not leave moves up to the discretion of the home manager. Such phrases as remove a pitcher when being bombed, pinch-hit for in the late innings, bring in ace reliever in close games are not specific and are open to differences of opinion. Be specific as to a certain number of runs or a certain inning. Do not say use the best pinch-hitter available or the best reliever available. State which pitchers to use when and in what order.

When I receive the new cards and see which teams have what players, I will announce the several trades that have been completed.

For those teams who really like to plan ahead, the following is the rest schedule for the Championship and World Series: Consider the last game of the regular season to have ended on a Sunday. The first 2 games of the Championship Series are played on the following Saturday and Sunday (5 days rest between the regular season and the first game; therefore, all injuries are expired and all pitchers are fully rested and eligible to pitch). For post season games only, injuries will count by days, not games. When a player is out for 2 games he only misses the next 2 days. The 3rd, 4th and 5th games if necessary are played in the other city on Monday through Wednesday. The World Series starts the following Saturday with days of rest for travel on Monday and Friday if necessary. The format is the same as the major leagues.

**ALL-STAR GAME:** The All-Star game will be played after the season with voting taking place after all final statistics have been published. Each manager will vote for players for his league's team except that he cannot vote for players on his team.

There will also be voting for manager of the year, MVP, Cy Young award and player of the year. The vote procedure will be the same as the All-Star game method.

If anyone can think of any additional refinements to the playing of the game, let me know before the next newsletter.

Barry Koopersmith